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Health Department  
Council Offices,  
Blaydon-on-Tyne  
March, 1974.

Dear Sirs,  
Blaydon 1974.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Blaydon Urban District Council.

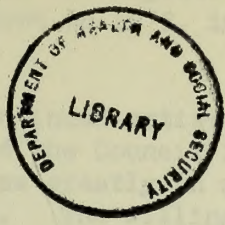
Dear Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

BLAYDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

I have the honour to acknowledge the Report of the  
Medical Officer of Health for the year, 1973.

Statistics have been provided and the Report. Detailed  
accounts, and in the form of a summary, are still being  
still being.

ANNUAL REPORT  
(ABRIDGED)



of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1973

The Medical Officer of Health for the year 1973 and his  
staff of the County Council Services Department and their assistance  
have been most helpful in the preparation of this Report.

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1973  
has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health  
Act, 1936, and the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1972.  
The Report is divided into two parts, the first part dealing with the  
general health of the district and the second part dealing with the  
specific health of the district.


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general health of the district and the second part dealing with the  
specific health of the district.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obedient servant,

W. A. BROWN

Medical Officer of Health.



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Health Department

Council Offices,

Blaydon on Tyne

March, 1974.

Telephone  
Blaydon 2822.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Blaydon Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the (abridged) Annual Report of the  
Medical Officer of Health for the year, 1973.

Statistics have been compiled and included in the Report. Detailed  
comments, made in the pre-amble of my Annual Report in 1972, in general  
still apply.

Progress in sanitary and health measures continued satisfactorily.  
I would thank members of the Health Committee and the Council for their  
co-operation and understanding which has helped me greatly in my own  
task and made the Department's efforts rewarding. The willing co-  
operation, when required, of the staff of other Departments of the  
Council has been greatly appreciated.

The work of employees of the Health Department continued at a  
high level, the good relations existing within this Department  
contributed very considerably to the very satisfactory standard which  
has been maintained. My thanks are due to all the Officers of the  
Department for their continued excellent work.

The helpful collaboration of the County Medical Officer and his  
staff of the County Social Services Department, and their assistance  
when required, must be recorded with thanks.

The Area Health Clerk, Mrs. Martin, continued to carry out her  
duties to the community in her usual efficient manner, her relationship  
with the public in connection with Personal Health Services, having been  
excellent. I am indebted to her for the collection and compilation  
of the detailed material in this Report relating to such Services and  
her assistance has been much appreciated.

My thanks to all voluntary bodies and Organisations outside  
of Local Government who have done so much for the community and  
have collaborated so willingly in supplying me with information  
regarding their activities.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. DRYDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.





## SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

There is little variation from what is reported in the 1972 report.

### STATISTICS

#### General

Acreage: 9,325

Number of inhabited houses:

Council 5,176    Other 6,374    Total 11,550

Number of Other Premises: 2,256.

Rateable Value: £2,501,512.00.

#### Vital

Population: 1931 - 32,248  
               1951 - 30,791  
               1971 - 32,070  
               1972 - 32,330  
               1973 - 31,940

Live Births:	Male	Female	Total
Number ... ..	6	8	14

Transferable births not yet received.

Deaths:	Male	Female	Total
Number ... ..	149	86	235

Transferable deaths not yet received

### PERSONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

#### Blood Transfusion Service.

The Regional Blood Transfusion Service has its Headquarters in the Newcastle General Hospital. It provides all necessary services for this District. It has a Donor Panel Department which organises and maintains Blood Donor Panels in each locality. In this District, during 1973, sessions were held as under. The figures show the strength of the panel on the dates listed, and the number of donations which were received on those dates.

Name of Panel	Sessions Centre	Dates of Sessions	Strength of Panel	Attendance
Blaydon	Trinity Church Sunday Schoolroom, Skibdon Road.	18th January	212	112
		2nd August.	212	75
Chopwell	Methodist Church Hall South Road	8th January	171	97
		25th June	171	96
Rowlands Gill	Community Centre, Strathmore Road	24th April	220	115
		16th October	220	121
Winlaton	Winlaton New West End Club	6th February	331	101
		31st July	331	88
		28th August	331	77
		2nd October	331	98

In addition, sessions are held twice a year on the premises of Messrs. Charles Churchill, Blaydon.

# SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

There is little variation from what is reported in the 1972 report.

## STATISTICS

### General

Average: 9,322  
 Number of inhabited houses:  
 Council 7,176 Other 6,374 Total 13,550  
 Number of Other Premises: 5,256  
 Rateable Value: £2,501,812.00

### Vital

Population: 1971 - 32,248  
 1971 - 30,791  
 1971 - 32,070  
 1972 - 32,730  
 1973 - 31,940

Live Births: 1971 - 32,248  
 1971 - 30,791  
 1971 - 32,070  
 1972 - 32,730  
 1973 - 31,940

Deaths: 1971 - 32,248  
 1971 - 30,791  
 1971 - 32,070  
 1972 - 32,730  
 1973 - 31,940

## PERSONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### Blood Transfusion Service

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Name of Panel	Session Centre	Date of Session	Strength of Panel	Attendance
Blaydon	Trinity Church Sunday Schoolroom, Blaydon Road	18th January 1973 2nd August 1973	215 215	112 75
Chopwell	Methodist Church Hall South Road	8th January 1973 25th June 1973	171 171	97 96
Rowlands Gill Community Centre	Sixsmiths Road	24th April 1973 18th October 1973	220 220	115 121
Whinston	Whinston New West End Club	6th February 1973 1st July 1973 18th August 1973 2nd October 1973	221 221 221 221	101 88 77 98

In addition, sessions are held twice a year on the premises of



## Mass Miniature Radiography

The Mass Radiography Unit which serves this District is Unit 1A, which is based on the Newcastle General Hospital. Since January, 1973 a Mobile Mass X-ray Unit has been sited, on Tuesday afternoons, on the Car Park Blaydon Socl. Club, Garden Street, Blaydon to which General Practitioners may refer patients for chest X-ray without appointment. The general public also made use of it. The statistics for No. 1 Health Area (Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts) are given below.

	Number X-rayed	Referred to Chest Clinic	Tuberculosis Treatment	Supervision only	Neoplasm
Doctors referrals	201	23	-	3	-
General public	299	10	-	1	1
Firms	67	4	1	1	-
Contact cases	7	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>

No sessions were held at industrial establishments in this Area during the year.

## Chiropody Service

As part of its responsibilities as the Local Health Authority for the District, the County Council finances the Chiropody Service run by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service. The actual chiropody treatment is carried out by qualified chiropodists and all residents of pensionable age and handicapped persons approved by the County Council, are eligible for this service should they require it.

Details of this Service, including statistics, are given below.

	Date of Opening	Number of Sessions per month	Number treated	Number of treatments
Blaydon...	5/5/65	3	60	240
Chopwell	24/5/65	4	100	379
High Spen	24/5/65	4	202	414
Rowlands Gill...	12/1/66	8	186	765
Winlaton	3/5/65	10	263	984
Winlaton Mill	7/2/66	1	35	118
Total number of persons treated ...			846	
Total number of treatments given...			2,900	

## Meals on Wheels

A Meals on Wheels Service, sponsored and financed by this Council with part financial assistance from the County Council and run by the Blaydon Branch of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, was commenced on the 24th August, 1964. During the year 80 residents of the District received hot meals twice per week.

Thanks are due to the Women's Royal Voluntary Service for the work carried out and Churchill Gear Machines Ltd. for the supply of meals and for their joint valuable co-operation.





## Luncheon Clubs

### Old People's Welfare Committee

This Committee continued actively throughout 1973 concentrating mainly on the finding of premises for the setting up of a Luncheon Club in Blaydon. Investigations are still continuing.

The Chopwell, High Spen, Rowlands Gill and Winlaton Luncheon Clubs have functioned extremely well, the average number of attendances per session at each being 30, 29, 50 and 52. These clubs have virtually been self-supporting.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-51

### Section 21-Provision of Residential Accommodation.

Hostel accommodation is provided by the County in No. 1 Health Area at:

Winton House, Parkhead Estate, Winlaton	Tel. No. Blaydon 2900
"The Hermitage" Front Street, Whickham	Tel. No. Whickham 887372
Tynedale House, Ryton	Tel. No. Ryton 2009

At the end of the year, 87 residents of the No. 1 Health Area, were accommodated in Residential Part III Accommodation.

### Section 47-Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.

No action was necessary under this part of the Act.

### Section 48-Notifiable Diseases

#### Notifiable Diseases

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# PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

## PREVALENCE

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year was 47 as compared with 294 in 1972.

Table comparing Number of Notifications during the years  
1972 and 73

	Number of cases in 1973			Number of cases in 1972		
	Notified			Notified		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis ...	2	1	3	1	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ...	-	-	-	1	-	1
Food Poisoning ...	2	-	2	6	1	7
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	1	3	4
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leprosy ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leptospirosis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles ...	9	18	27	131	128	259
Whooping Cough ...	-	1	1	-	-	-
Malaria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetanus ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
*Other Quarantinable Diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	2	-	2	8	5	13
Tuberculosis:						
Respiratory ...	5	-	10	4	3	7
Meninges & C.N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Forms ...	-	2	2	-	1	1
	20	27	47	152	142	294

\* The following are quarantinable diseases

Cholera, Plague, Smallpox and Yellow Fever

## CONTROL

### Tuberculosis

#### B.C.G. Vaccination

Details of the B.C.G. vaccination programme carried out by the Area Health Services in schools in the District are given below.

	Given skin test	Positive Reactors	Negative Reactors given B.C.G.	<sup>10</sup> Positive Reactors given B.C.G.
Blaydon Comprehensive	211	22	177	19
Hookergate Secondary	108	11	92	5
Rowlands Gill Secondary	107	15	78	10
St. Thomas More Secondary	92	11	76	5
Totals:	518	59	423	5





# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Sections numbered 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14 in the 1972 report show little variation in 1973.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

General inspections of 144 premises, to which the Act applies and in respect of which the Council is the enforcing authority, were made during the year.

While no major infringements of the legal provisions were observed, it was found necessary to verbally draw attention to minor breaches of the law and remedial measures were carried out by employers.

### REGISTRATION

	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspections during the year
Offices ... ..	3	55	41
Retail Shops ... ..	3	118	82
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	10	6
Catering establishments open to public ... ..	-	19	15
Canteens ... ..	-	-	-
Fuel storage depots	-	4	-
Totals ... ..	6	206	144

Number of visits, by inspectors, to all kinds of registered premises 216

### ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPEOPLE

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices ... ..	299
Retail shops ... ..	316
Wholesale departments, warehouses ... ..	101
Catering establishments open to public ... ..	181
Canteens ... ..	-
Fuel storage depots ... ..	22
Total ... ..	919
Total Males ... ..	491
Total Females ... ..	428

### REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Workplace	Number reported		Total Number investigated	Prosecution	Formal warning	Informal advice
	Fatal	Non Fatal				
Offices ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail shops ... ..	-	1	1	-	-	1
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to public ... ..	-	2	2	-	-	2
Canteens ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fuel storage depots ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total ... ..	-	3	3	-	-	3





# ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale warehouses	Catering establishments open to public canteens	Fuel storage depots
Machinery ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Transport ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Falls of persons ...	-	-	-	-	-
Stepping on or striking against object or person	-	-	-	2	-
Handling goods ...	-	-	-	-	-
Struck by falling object	-	1	-	-	-
Totals ...	-	1	-	2	-

## Cinemas

There are no cinemas operating in the District

## Disinfection of Houses

Disinfection and disinfection facilities are available for householders where infectious diseases occurred. The Department will fumigate premises where necessary.

## Mortuaries

The District has one mortuary situated in a building in the yard of the Council Offices. Post-mortems, as required, are carried out in Normans Riding Hospital by arrangement with the Hospital Authorities.

## Schools

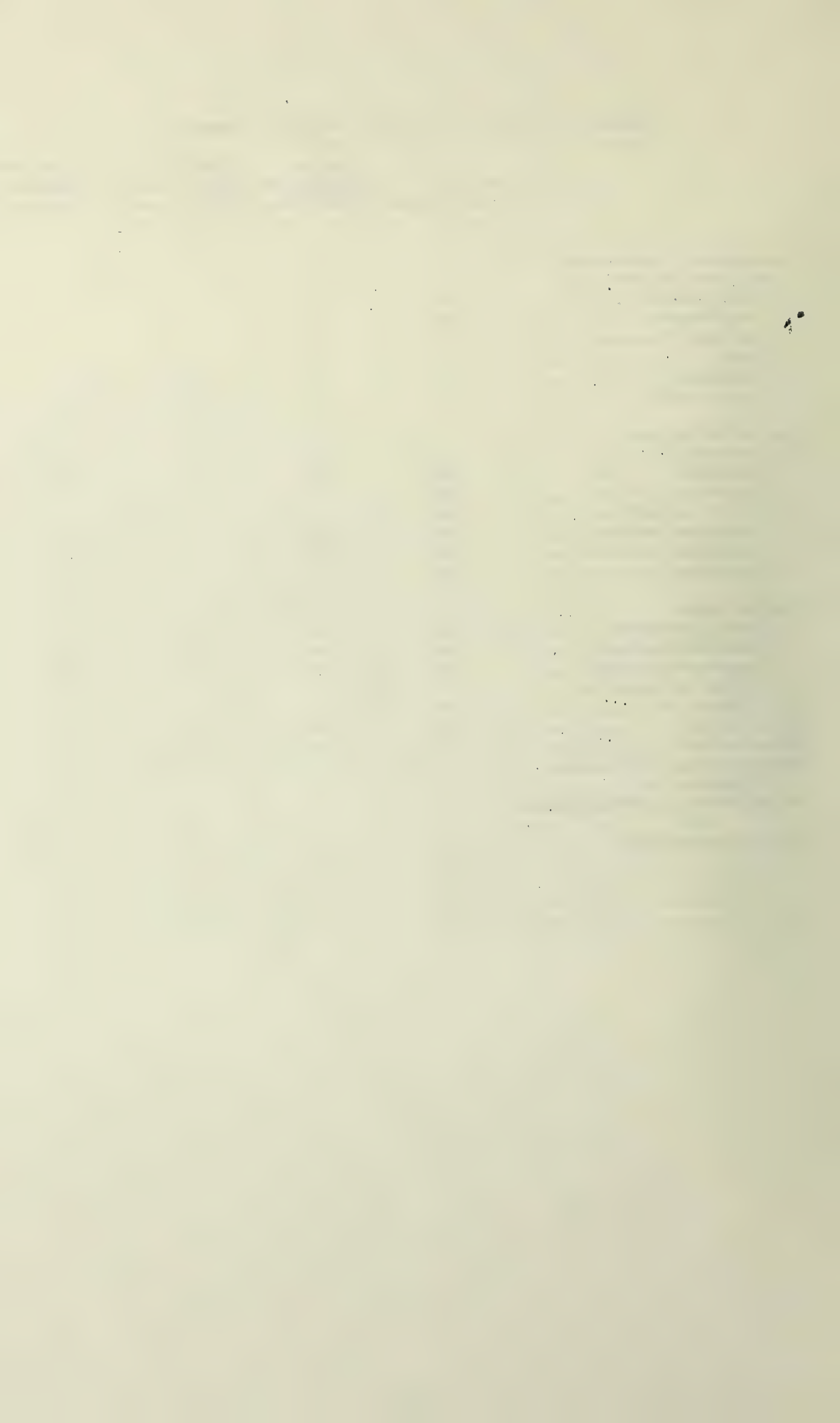
Close liaison continued between the Divisional Education Office and the Health Department on matters relating to infectious diseases, sanitary accommodation, refuse disposal, food handling and pest infestation in schools throughout the District. This contributed considerably to the maintenance of satisfactory hygienic standards at these premises.





# Summary of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances Remedied

	No. of inspections	No. of informal notices served	No. of statutory notices served	Defects remedied after notice
Food Hygiene Regulations:				
Inspection of Food and				
Food Premises ... ..	914	3	-	3
Unfit Food ... ..	40	-	-	-
Licensed Premises ... ..	5	-	-	-
Meat ... ..	6	-	-	-
Sampling ... ..	10	-	-	-
Mobile Shops ... ..	-	-	-	-
Public Health Acts:				
Water Supply ... ..	7	-	-	-
Disrepair ... ..	199	22	-	22
Refuse collection ... ..	949	-	-	-
Insect Infestation ... ..	561	-	-	-
Defective Drainage ... ..	29	15	-	15
Infectious Diseases ... ..	93	-	-	-
Nuisances ... ..	106	-	-	-
Housing Acts				
House Inspections ... ..	714	21	-	21
Standard Grants ... ..	88	-	-	-
Improvement Grants ... ..	500	183	-	183
Prevention of Damage by				
Pests Act ... ..	501	-	-	-
Clean Air Act ... ..	963	-	-	-
Factories Act ... ..	2	-	-	-
Offices, Shops and Railway				
Premises Act ... ..	31	-	-	-
Animal Boarding Establishments				
Act ... ..	3	-	-	-
Civic Amenities Act ... ..	32	3	-	3
Totals ... ..	5,731	247	-	43





## Inspection and Supervision of Food

### Milk and Milk Products.

#### Dairy Farms.

The supervision of milk production at the dairy farms in the District is undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

#### Dairies

Four dairies, used mainly as receiving depots, remained registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

#### Distributors.

The County Council are responsible for the licensing and undertake milk sampling in respect of milk of special designation.

Milk sampling was undertaken as in previous years.

No cases of Brucella Abortus were ascertained.

#### Diseases from Milk

No action became necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

#### Ice Cream

One establishment remained registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture of ice cream. The apparatus used in the manufacture of the product is of modern design which enables the occupier of the premises to comply fully with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959-63.

### Meat and Meat Products.

#### Meat

A slaughterhouse licence, in respect of the one private slaughterhouse in the District, the layout, construction and equipment of which complied with the Slaughterhouse Regulations, were renewed under the Slaughterhouse Act, 1958.

There were no cattle slaughtered in the District during the year.

Three slaughterman licences were renewed under the Slaughter of Animal Act, 1958, for a further year.

#### Meat Products.

Canned meat found to be unsound and weighing a total of 443 lbs. was voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent its use for human consumption.

#### Poultry and Poultry Products

There are no poultry processing premises in the District.

#### Other Foods.

The following other food products were found to be unsound, voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent their use for human consumption.



Canned Foods				Weight
Fruit	...	...	...	3,341 lbs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	1,368 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	-
Other	...	...	...	806 lbs.

The underlisted were condemned due to freezer breakdown:

Meat	...	...	...	134 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	195 lbs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	189 lbs.
Other	...	...	...	55 lbs.

#### Food Premises

The following table summarises details of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970, grouped in categories of trade carried on in them. It should be noted that, in many cases, other types of commodities are sold besides the principal trade:

Type of Premises	Number	Number of Premises fitted to comply with Reg.16	Number of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	Number of Premises fitted to comply with Reg, 19
Bakers ...	5	5	5	5
Ice Cream Manufacturer	1	1	1	1
Catering Premises ...	24	24	24	24
Butchers ...	18	18	18	18
Fish Shops:-				
Fried Fish ...	11	11	11	11
Wet Fish ...	3	3	3	3
Grocers ...	39	39	39	39
Greengrocers ...	10	10	10	10
General Dealers ...	53	53	53	53
Confectioners (Sweets)	10	10	10	10
Confectioners (Cakes)	10	10	10	10
Chemists ...	5	5	5	5
Licensed Premises ...	39	39	39	39
Off Licensed Premises	10	10	10	10

Inspections of all food premises, involving 221 visits and revisits, were made by the inspectorial staff under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970, and any infringements found were forthwith brought to the notice of the persons concerned verbally or by the service of written informal notices.

The majority of traders, recognising their responsibilities and obligations to the general public, complied with the notices and a general improvement in food hygiene practices has been observed.

#### Food Sampling

Details of samples taken in the Blaydon Urban District have been obtained from the County and are available from the Chief Environmental Health Officer of Gateshead District, on request.





## Housing.

### Closing and Demolition of Houses.

(a)	Number of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action ... ..	Nil
(b)	Number of houses closed but not demolished as a result of formal action ... ..	Nil
(c)	Number of houses closed but not demolished as a result of informal action ... ..	Nil

### Reconditioning and Repair.

Number of houses made fit during the year by procedure under the Housing Acts or Public Health Acts:

(a)	As a result of informal action ... ..	301
(b)	By owners as a result of Statutory Notices ... ..	Nil
(c)	By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil

### Housing Acts, 1969/71

During the year steady progress under the above Act was made towards the preservation, with the aid of Improvement Grants, of structurally sound houses still with substantial life ahead of them.

The number of applications for Standard Improvement Grants during the year was 451 being an increase of 3 over last years figure of 488

Details of work carried out in connection with Standard Improvement Grants are as follows:-

1.	Number of Applications approved:	
	(a) Owner-Occupiers ... ..	402
	(b) Tenanted Houses ... ..	49
2.	Number of Dwellings improved:	
	(a) Owner-Occupiers ... ..	283
	(b) Tenanted Houses ... ..	34
3.	Amount Paid in Grants ... ..	£298,324.00
4.	Average Grant per house ... ..	£941.08
5.	Number of amenities provided:	
	(a) Fixed bath or shower ... ..	317
	(b) Wash-hand basins ... ..	317
	(c) Sinks ... ..	310
	(d) Hot water supplies ... ..	317
	(e) Water closets ... ..	317
6.	Details of Standard Improvement Grants since inspection of Scheme in 1959:	
	(a) Number of Applications received ... ..	2,316
	(b) Number of Applications approved ... ..	2,309
	(c) Number of dwelling-houses improved under Scheme ... ..	1,691
	(d) Total amount paid in Grants ... ..	£617,118.00





# Factories Act, 1971

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1973 for the Urban District of Blaydon in the County of Durham.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1961.

## Part 1 of the Act.

### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prose- cuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2, 3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	9	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	136	13	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers premises ... ..	-	-	-	-
Totals ... ..	145	19	-	-

### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecution were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred		To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S 1) ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S 2) ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S 3) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S 4) ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S 6)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S 7) ... ..						
(a) Insufficient ... ..	1	1	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	3	3	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act ... (not including offences relating to Outwork) ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ... ..	4	4	-	-	-	-

### Outworkers

There are no outworkers employed in the District





## STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

John A. Dryden, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., B.Chir., M.F.C.M., D.P.H., D.I.H.

### SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Wilson Joyce, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board.  
Cert. R.S.I. Inspector of Meat and Other Food  
(Retired 31st July, 1973)

Edward Ridley, Cert. Public Health Inspectors Joint Board.  
Cert. R.S.H. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.  
Cert. R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.  
(Promoted Senior Public Health Inspector)

### ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Robert Gray, Diploma of P.H.I.E.B.  
Cert. R.S.A. Smoke Inspector  
Testamur of Institute of Public Cleansing

William H. Scott, Diploma of P.H.I.E.B. (commenced duties 1st August, 1973)

### PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Neal Hodgson

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

A. C. Nichol (commenced duties 7th May, 1973)

### DEPARTMENTAL CLERKS

Mrs. Vera Telfer (Senior Clerk)  
Mrs. Hazel Young (General Clerk) Resigned 4th May, 1973  
Miss. Maureen Smith (General Clerk) Commenced duties 23rd April, 1973



